

Hamilton Field, Tennis Courts
Escolta Avenue at 6th Street, and Crescent
Drive near South Oakwood Drive
Novato
Marin County
California

HABS No. CA-2398-CZ

HABS
CAL
21-NOVA,
ICZ-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HAMILTON FIELD Tennis Courts

HABS
CAL
21-NOVA,
ICZ-

HABS No. CA-2398-CZ

Location: Hamilton Army Air Field
Novato, Marin County, California
Tennis Courts (Escolta Avenue at 6th Street; Crescent Drive near South Oakwood Drive)

U.S.G.S.: Novato, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1954 (revised 1980)
Petaluma Point, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1959 (revised 1980)
UTM Coordinates: Zone 10; A: 542100/4213620; B: 544720/4212220;
C: 542760/4210650; D: 541040/4212600

Significance:

The tennis courts are considered significant for their association with Air Force history in northern California, and with World War II actions in the Pacific Theater. Tennis, along with swimming and various ball games, was an important part of the base physical exercise and recreational program for many people stationed at Hamilton Field. These courts are still in use today.

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) for a comprehensive Statement of Significance and individual report HABS No. CA-2398-A for a condensed Statement of Significance.

Description:

Two sets of tennis courts were built at Hamilton Field in 1934 and 1935; one in the officers' housing area and one in the central temporary housing section of the base near the base chapel. Each fenced compound contains regulation courts with asphalt pavement and adjacent parking areas. Originally they had macadam surfaces. Although upgraded and maintained continuously since their construction in 1935, they have not been significantly altered in appearance.

Historical Context:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

Tennis was a popular sport in the 1930s at Hamilton. Two courts were built during initial construction, reflecting Nurse's overall intent to create a complete "city" with all amenities.

**HAMILTON FIELD
(Tennis Courts)**

HABS No. CA-2398-CZ Page 2

Sources:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

Project Information:

Hamilton Army Air Field is owned by various federal entities including the Department of the Navy, Department of the Army, United States Coast Guard, and General Services Administration (GSA). The Army/GSA parcels are being excessed and sold to private developers. The Navy property is included in Base Closure and Realignment actions.

As part of the Army's undertaking, it has been determined in consultation with the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) that the excess sale will have an affect on properties at the air field, and that these properties are components of a district that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on consultation with the OHP and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was entered into by the interested parties in March 1994. The agreement stipulated that prior to excess sale the Army must contact the HABS/HAER division at the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service, San Francisco, California, to determine the appropriate level and kind of recordation for the subject properties. The MOA further stipulated that copies of the documentation be made available to the OHP and appropriate local archives designated by the OHP. This recordation has been prepared in order to meet those stipulations.

Text prepared by: Mary L. Maniery/Judith Marvin

Title: Historian/Architectural Historian

Affiliation: PAR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC., Sacramento, California

Date prepared: July 1995

Photography prepared by: David De Vries

Affiliation: Mesa Technical, Berkeley, California

Date of photographs: November 1994